

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Periodic Reporting
(Proposal Three)

Docket No. RM2020-10

CHAIRMAN'S INFORMATION REQUEST NO. 1

(Issued June 18, 2020)

To further assist the Commission in its evaluation of the Postal Service's proposed changes to analytical principles relating to periodic reports,¹ the Postal Service is requested to provide written responses to the following questions and data requests. The responses and data should be provided as soon as possible, but no later than June 30, 2020.

1. Please provide the In-Office Cost System (IOCS) non-cluster sample SAS dataset for fiscal year 2020, quarters one and two including the following information.²
 - a. Please include the variables typically included in the Annual Compliance Review non-public filing³ and also the following additional information for each record: the "F2" (actual finance number), "F229" (postal area), "F226" ("Site Code"), "F227" (work unit), "F13" (office name), "F14" (office

¹ Petition of the United States Postal Service for the Initiation of a Proceeding to Consider Proposed Changes in Analytical Principles (Proposal Three), June 11, 2020 (Petition). The Postal Service also filed a notice of filing of public and non-public materials relating to Proposal Three. Notice of Filing of USPS-RM2020-10-1 and USPS-RM2020-10-NP1 and Application for Nonpublic Treatment, June 11, 2020.

² This is the same period as the Proposal Three IOCS cluster-sample data. See Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, PDF file "Fldr.1.Prop.3.Preface.pdf," at 5.

³ Docket No. ACR2019, Library Reference USPS-FY19-NP21, December 27, 2019, folder "Data."

- ZIP code), "Q16B02B" (actual ZIP Code of route), and "Q23D02" (actual Destination ZIP Code) variables.⁴
- b. Please provide a key that describes each of the values in the "F226" and "F227" variables field.⁵
 - c. Please explain the difference(s) between the "F226" and "F227" variables.
 - d. Please provide the variable and methodology used to identify the district of each sampled facility in the IOCS non-cluster sample.
2. To better assess the Proposal Three IOCS cluster-sample selection, please provide the following additional and actual (rather than recoded)⁶ information.⁷
- a. Please provide for the Proposal Three IOCS cluster sample data, the actual test id, actual sampled facility finance number, office name, ZIP Code of the office, "LocationSamp," "TestZone," "BaCode," ("Site Ba Code"), "Q16B02B" (ZIP Code of the route), "F226" ("Site Code"), "F227" (work unit), "F229" (postal area) and "Q23D02" (destination ZIP Code) variables.⁸

⁴ See Docket No. ACR2019, Library Reference USPS-FY19-37, December 27, 2019, Excel file "IOCSDataDictionaryFY19.xlsx," tab "Mainframe Layout."

⁵ A description of the meaning of the values is not included in the data dictionary. See Docket No. ACR2019, Library Reference USPS-FY19-37, Excel file "IOCSDataDictionaryFY19.xlsx," tab "Mainframe Layout."

⁶ The Postal Service recoded the finance number of the sampled facility and a portion of the test identifier. See Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, PDF file "Fldr.1.P.3.Preface.pdf," at 5.

⁷ The Proposal Three IOCS cluster-sample data file includes the facility name, ZIP Code of the facility, site code and location of the sample. However, these do not appear to be included in the datasets initially provided in the Proposal Three filings. See Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, folder "Public.Fldr.1.Prop.3.IOCS.Clstr," folder "Public," folder "Data," Excel file "IOCSDataDictionary_IOCSCluster.xlsx," tab "Cluster Sample File Layout."

⁸ Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, folder "Public.Fldr.1.Prop.3.IOCS.Clstr," folder "Public," folder "Data," Excel file "IOCSDataDictionary_IOCSCluster.xlsx," tabs "Mainframe Layout" and "Cluster Sample File Layout."

- b. Please provide a key with a description for the values in the “BaCode” variable.⁹
 - c. Please describe the differences between the “BaCode” and “F226” variables.
 - d. If the descriptions for the values in the “F226” and “F227” variables in the IOCS cluster-sample differ from the descriptions for the same variables in the IOCS non-cluster sample, please specify how they differ, and provide a description key for each variable value.
 - e. Please provide the variable and methodology used to identify the district of each IOCS cluster-sample facility.
 - f. Please provide a description key for the values of the “WorkStatus” variable previously included in the Proposal Three IOCS cluster sample data.¹⁰
3. Please provide the following information used to produce the final Proposal Three IOCS cluster sample dataset.
- a. For the calculations and processing in the “ATCOST” SAS program,¹¹ please provide the “TACSSummary” (TACS workhours) and “POEXPTBL” (accrued costs from the accounting systems) datasets and the values used for the city carrier assistant and supervisor wages (inputs for the “CCAWG” and “SUPWG” variables).

⁹ A description of the values in the “BaCode” variable data field was not provided. See Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, folder “Public.Fldr.1.Prop.3.IOCS.Clstr,” folder “Public,” folder “Data,” Excel file “IOCSDataDictionary_IOCSCluster.xlsx,” tab “Mainframe Layout.”

¹⁰ A description of the values in the “WorkStatus” variable data field was not provided. See Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, folder “Public.Fldr.1.Prop.3.IOCS.Clstr,” folder “Public,” folder “Data,” Excel file “IOCSDataDictionary_IOCSCluster.xlsx,” tab “Mainframe Layout.”

¹¹ See Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, folder “Public.Fldr.1.Prop.3.IOCS.Clstr,” folder “Public,” folder “SASPrograms,” program “ATCOST.”

- b. For the calculations and partial processing in the “CL101” SAS program,¹² please provide the “SampM,” “SampA,” “POTable,” “Orfeo,” “SUMM3,” “IOCL,” “SampF,” and “ANOM” datasets, the “Clusall,” and “Clus_Samp” macros code and the “PSUwgtAdj” format code.
- 4. The Postal Service states that “[w]hile the universe is considered all workhours, only TACS workhours are incorporated in IOCS-Cluster.”¹³
 - a. Please explain the difference between “all workhours” and “only TACS workhours.” *Id.*
 - b. Please specify by quarter, craft and facility cost ascertainment group, the number of workhours that are not included in TACS workhours.

By the Chairman.

Robert G. Taub

¹² See Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, folder “Public.Fldr.1.Prop.3.IOCS.Clstr,” folder “Public,” folder “SASPrograms,” program “CL101.”

¹³ Library Reference USPS-RM2020-10-1, folder “Public.Fldr.1.Prop.3.IOCS.Clstr,” folder “Public,” folder “Documents,” PDF file “AppendixA.pdf,” at 1 n.1.